

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MCT-01 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4514
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
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AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

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E.O. 11652:N/A
TAGS:IS,PFOR, XF
SUBJECT: FM ALLON REBUTS OPPOSITION KNESSET MOTIONS ON SADAT-
HUSSEIN TALKS

1. FM ALLON, IN A KNESSET DEBATE JANUARY 19, STRONGLY
REITERATED GOI POLICIES REJECTING A THIRD STATE BETWEEN
ISRAEL AND JORDAN AND RULING OUT NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE
PLO IN ANY PLACE OR IN ANY MANNER. ALLON WAS RE-
SPONDING TO FOUR DIFFERENT MOTIONS SPONSORED BY MK'S
BEGIN (LIKUD), BEN-MEIR (.40), PAIL (MOKED), AND NOF
(FREE CENTER). ALLON DESCRIBED THE WOULD-BE PALESTINIAN
"THIRD STATE" AS "A STILLBORN IDEA" AND THE PLO AS
"THIS MURDERES' ORGANIZATION...WHICH HAS EMBLAZONED
ON ITS STANDARD THE DESTRUCTION OF ISRAEL."

2. IN HIS REMARKS, LIKUD LEADER BEGIN HAD HIGHLIGHTED
THE SADAT-HUSSEIN STATEMENT AS MARKING ONLY ONE OF THE
ARAB REAPPROCHEMENTS OCCURING ALL AROUND ISRAEL,
WHOSE STRATEGIC POSITION HE SAID HAD NEVER BEEN SO
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GRAVE AS NOW. ALLON DESCRIBED GOI POLICY AS ONE
WHICH IGNORES NEITHER THE DANGERS LATENT IN RECENT
ARAB DEVELOPMENTS NOR THE PROSPECTS WHICH THEY MAY
HOLD OUT. HE SAID THAT IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO FIND
FACTUAL SUBSTANTIATION FOR THE CONTENTION THAT JOR-
DAN'S AFFINITY FOR THE WEET BANK HAS WEAKENED OF
LATE. THE POLICY OF "NOT ONE INCH" SUPPORTED BY

BEGIN, BEN-MEIR AND NOF, SAID ALLON, WOULD VERY
LIKELY BRING THE CALAMITY OF AN IMPOSED SETTLEMENT,
WHEREAS THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY (OF TERRITORIAL
COMPROMISE FOR PEACE WITH DEFENSIBLE BORDERS) IS ONE
WHICH SRAEL'S FRIENDS CAN BE PERSUADED TO SUPPORT.
AFTER REMINDING THE KNESSET THAT RABIN'S CARE-
TAKER GOVERNMENT HAS FULL POWERS AND WILL NOT DE-
VIATE FRHO PCS ESTABLISHED POLICY, ALLON CONCLUDED
WITH "NEEDLESS TO SAY--IF AND WHEN WE SHALL HAVE TO
UNDERTAKE ANY NEW POLITICAL COMMITMENT WHATSOEVER,
THIS WILL BE DONE ACCORDING TO ALL THE ORDERLY PRO-
OHCEDURES, INCLUDING BRINGING THE MATTER BEFORE
THE HOUSE."

3. COMMENT:BOTH THE OPPOSITION MOTIONS AND FM
ALLON'S REBUTTAL ARE PERHAPS BEST VIEWED IN THE
CONTEXT OF ELECTORAL "POLITICKING" AND,TO JUDGE
FROM THE DUTIFUL BUT ROUTINE COVERAGE GIVEN TO
THE KNESSET SESSION, IT WOULD SEEM THAT NEITHER
SIDE MADE MUCH IMPRESSION ON THE PUBLIC. WE
PARTICULARLY NOTE ALLON'S EFFORT TO MAKE A CON-
TRAST BETWEEN THE (LABOR) GOVERNMENT'S REASONABLE,
REALISTIC APPROACH AND ITS OPPONENTS OVER-SIMPLIFIED,
ALARMIST TACTICS. (WE WILL BE REPORTING MORE FULLY
ON INTRA-LABOR PARTY DIFFERENCES ON ITS WEST BANK
PLATFORM PLANK.)
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